

Serial No. 10/677,740
Amdt. dated June 2, 2005
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REMARKS

Applicant's attorney wishes to express his appreciation for the courtesy of an interview conducted with Examiners Grosso and Castellano on June 1, 2005.

Applicant has amended the specification for grammatical errors.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to clarify that the support structures provide support to the inclined sidewalls when the receptacle is empty.

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 as being anticipated by Shaw. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Shaw does not disclose a plurality of support structures that support the sidewalls in the inclined position when the receptacle is empty.

The Examiner has also rejected claim 1 as being unpatentable over Smith in view of Boardman. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Smith is a self-supporting tank, which does not require any separate support structures to support its sidewalls. Smith is an enclosed tank that is self-supporting when filled with water. Thus, Smith does not require any separate support structures.

Boardman discloses a rigid tank with a permanently attached strut-truss systems 15 and 16 that provide support to the sidewalls 13. Boardman does not appear to be analogous. Further, there is no suggestion or motivation to combine the support structure disclose in Boardman with the collapsible tank of Smith, since Smith has no need for such a support structure.

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The Examiner has rejected claim 14 as being unpatentable over Smith in view of Boardman, Hoffman, Gracie and Kuo. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Applicant has amended claim 14. There is no suggestion or teaching to modify the tank of Smith with the support structure of Boardman and the other cited references for the same reason as in claim 1.

The Examiner has rejected claim 19 as being anticipated by Shaw. Applicant respectfully disagrees. As discussed in connection with claim 1, Shaw does not disclose support structure to support the inclined sidewalls when the receptacle is empty.

The Examiner has rejected claim 20 as being anticipated by Hoie. Claim 20 as amended includes a plurality of collapsible support structures to support the sidewalls when the receptacle is empty. This feature is not found in Hoie nor in the other cited references.

Applicant has amended claims 8, 10, 12 and 13 for minor informalities.

In view of the above, it is asserted that claims 1-20 are patentable over the cited references and are asserted to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of rejection is respectfully requested and an early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

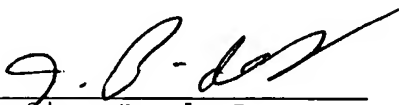
Upon the allowance of generic claims 1 and 14, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement as to the non-elected species of claims 3 and 18 be withdrawn pursuant to MPEP 809.02(c), or alternatively be added by an Examiner's Amendment.

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It is believed that no fee is due; however, should that be incorrect, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-2105 and inform the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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